

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 08078 140415Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-12 /083 W
-----096243 140713Z /23

R 131530Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6608
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
CNO WASH DC
JCS WASH DC
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

S E C R E T CAIRO 08078

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR MILI EG US
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE USN USE OF ALEXANDRIA SHIPYARD

REF: (A) CAIRO 1418, (B) STATE 9518

1. DURING MY MARCH 11 MEETING WITH SADAT IN FAYOUM, I RECALLED OUR TALK OF LAST SUMMER IN WHICH HE HAD INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO HAVE THE U.S. NAVY MAKE USE OF THE ALEXANDRIA SHIPYARD FACILITIES. I SAID THAT EARLIER THIS YEAR USN INDICATED WILLINGNESS SEND SURVEY TEAM TO LOOK OVER THE YARD. BECAUSE OF UNCERTAIN POLITICAL SITUATION, I HAD SUGGESTED THAT DISPATCH OF TEAM BE DEFERRED. THIS HAD BEEN DONE. SINCE CNO, ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY, WILL SHORTLY VISIT EGYPT, I THOUGHT I OUGHT TO QUERY THE PRESIDENT AS TO HIS PRESENT THINKING ON THIS MATTER. WE WERE IN NO WAY PRESSING, BUT USN WOULD STILL BE PREPARED SEND A SURVEY TEAM.

2. AS I THOUGHT HE WOULD, SADAT SAID THE TIME IS NOT POLITICALLY RIGHT FOR SUCH A SURVEY TEAM VISIT. PEACE
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SITUATION REMAINS TOO UNCERTAIN AND THE ARRIVAL OF SUCH A TEAM NOW WOULD GIVE HIM PROBLEMS IN THE ARAB WORLD AND WITH THE SOVIETS.

3. SADAT ADDED THAT HE INTENDS SHORTLY TO ISSUE A DECREE, BASED ON A YUGOSLAV MODEL, ALLOWING ANY FOREIGN VESSELS TO MAKE USE OF THE ALEXANDRIA SHIPYARD FACILITIES FOR REPAIR

WORK. ALL SUCH SHIP REPAIR WORK WOULD BE DONE BY EGYPTIAN
LABORERS. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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